From:	Waters, Katherine
Cc:	Wasserman, Stephanie; CCICOffice
Subject:	CCIC Policy Committee Updates
Date:	Tuesday, February 12, 2019 12:01:00 PM
Attachments:	Notes_Feb 4 2019_Public Policy Committee Mtg.docx

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Hello CCIC Policy Committee Members,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to provide some quick updates on our policy and media efforts. Also, please see the meeting notes from this month's call attached.

On Wednesday of last week, CCIC's contract lobbyist Sara Odendahl, CCIC's Policy Committee co-chair Dr. O'Leary, CCIC staff member Katie Waters and I met at the Capitol with members of Governor Polis' administration. Also at the meeting was Sundari Kraft, founder of Colorado Parents for Vaccinated Communities (CPVC), and Representative Kyle Mullica. Rep Mullica arranged the meeting because he wanted to get a read on the temperature of the Governor's office for supporting a bill to eliminate the ability for parents to elect Non-Medical Exemptions (personal belief and religious) for school required vaccinations.

The Governor's office was not in favor of this policy approach. However, they expressed support for many other immunization policies that could strengthen our currently lenient policies for Non-Medical Exemptions, as well as address other options for improving immunization rates in Colorado. Rep Mullica is now considering other options.

In addition to our meeting at the Capitol, Rep Mullica also held a listening session this past Friday with a large group of anti-vax constituents, including some high profile out-of-town Hollywood types, who expressed concern about any changes to Colorado's exemption policies. The standing room only event did receive some local TV news coverage. Although no bill has been introduced, Rep Mullica thought a listening session could serve as a gesture of goodwill.

Regardless of if and when an immunization bill is introduced, CCIC and CPVC are planning an **Immunization Day at the Capitol on February 21st** from 8:45am-1:30pm. We would love for policy committee members to attend this great opportunity to meet with legislators and share pro-vaccine messages. The day will include some on-site advocacy training, legislative luncheon, and opportunities for participants to speak individually or in groups with legislators.

Please share this link with anyone in your network that you feel may be interested. We are asking participants to register so we can have an accurate head-count for lunch.

https://www.coparents4vax.org/day-at-the-capitol.html

Note: We are keeping the promotion of this internal to pro-public health circles, because we'd like to avoid attracting anti-vaccine activists to the event if at all possible.

Finally, last week the Colorado 2019 Vaccine Preventable Disease report came out. This is an annual

report co-authored by Children's Hospital and CCIC. It has received a lot of media coverage. Thank you to Drs. Asturias and Cataldi for authoring this great report.

- Coloradans spent $55 million on childhood diseases that vaccinations could have prevented in 2017 | *Denver Business Journal*
- Carman: Time to kick the deliberately reckless disease vectors out of the herd | *Colorado Sun*
- Treatment of under vaccinated Colorado children with diseases costs $55.5 million, report says | *The Denver Post*
- Why are vaccination rates for children lagging in Southwest Colorado? | *The Durango Herald*
- The Lookout: Polis Tries To Broker Teacher Deal, I-70 Rockslide Closure, Army Recruiting Efforts And More Colorado Headlines | *CPR* (Brief mention)
- Should Each Non-Medical Vaccine-Exemption Cost $4,610? | *Precision Vaccinations*
- Kafer: Lack of vaccination in United States is a travesty | The Denver Post

Please feel free to contact myself or Stephanie with any questions.

Best,

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